



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: C. M. Hansen

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clearly shows a pair of drive branching links 27. (See page 16, second complete paragraph of the September 21 Response.)

Applicants further point out that the Examiner failed to consider pending claims 33 and 34. That is, the Examiner provided no reasons for withdrawing or rejecting those claims in the April 21 Final Office Action.

6) On October 12, 2005, an Advisory Action (October 12 Advisory Action) was issued. In the Advisory Action, the Examiner stated as follows:

Applicant's assertion that the amendments of 1/5/2005 are generic to all species is not persuasive, given that applicant's amendment still appears to be pointed toward non-elected species, specifically with regard to the added recitation that "first and second drive branching links separately couple (sic) to said guiding means". As seen in figure 2, the branching links 27 are clearly coupled, in unison (not separately), to guide base 22 by same pin 25.

Response to the October 12 Advisory Action

The Examiner has not correctly read Applicants' September 21 Response. Applicants never indicated that the amendments made to claims in the January 5 Response were generic to all species. What was stated on page 16, third complete paragraph in the September 21 Response was that "[e]ven if the amended claims and new claims read on other species (e.g. species with drive branching links 51) as well as on the elected species (e.g. A1), that is no reason to withdraw the claims from consideration." Applicants never asserted that amendments themselves are generic to all species. In fact, Applicants will show below that the amended claims with the limitation, first and second drive branching links, cannot be generic to all species but are narrowly directed to Species A1 and other species that have a pair of drive branching links.

There are only two examples of drive branching links disclosed in the present specification: a pair of drive branching links 27 as shown in Figs. 1-3, 6, and 7 and one, single drive branching link 51 as shown in Figs. 5 and 8-10. Therefore, by amending claims to state “first and second drive branching links” as Applicants had, the claims were rendered to read only on Figs.

